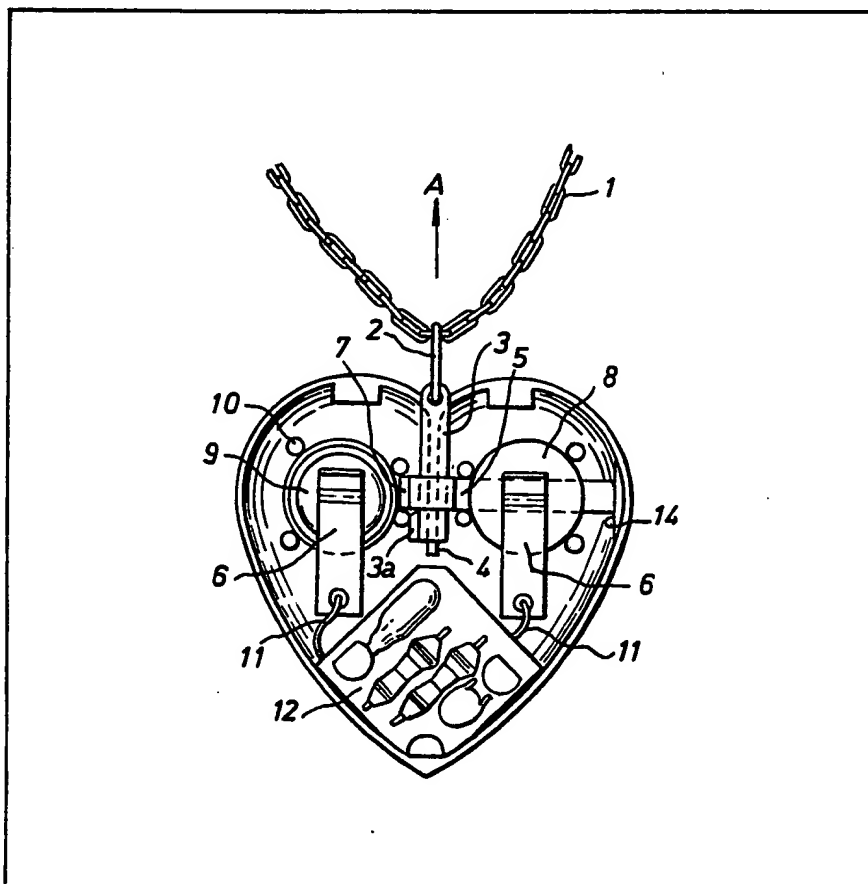


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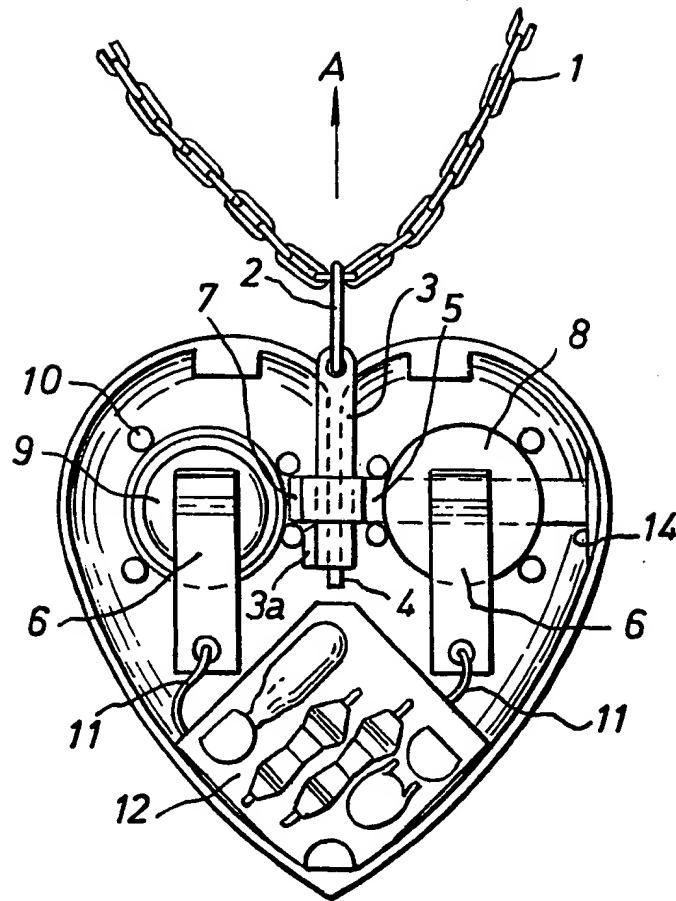
(54) Pendant

(57) There is provided a piece of pendant jewellery suspended from a chain (1). The pendant is hollow and contains batteries (8, 9) and circuitry (12) for a light effect. The pendant is suspended on the chain (1) by a jump ring (2) connected to a cam member (3) slidable against a frictional resistance and having a cam element (3a) engageable with a movable part (7) of a contact (5) to complete the light effect circuit when the cam element (3) is pulled outwardly of the pendant.



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SPECIFICATION

Pendant

- 5 This invention relates to electronic jewellery and particularly to pendants or other suspended items of jewellery for personal wear.

Electronic jewellery may be defined as jewellery incorporating an electrical lighting effect, frequently

- 10 both flashing and internal.

According to the present invention, there is provided a pendant item for personal wear incorporating a light effect, in which the pendant is suspended on a chain, cord or other flexible support connected to a switching operating device so that by pulling on the pendant, or flexible support, the switch is operated to control the light effect.

- 20 The switch operating device may comprise a cam slidably against frictional resistance to engage or disengage a movable contact element.

The switch operating device may be operable under the weight of the pendant, but preferably a greater force is required.

- 25 In addition to pendants as such, the invention is also applicable to brooches incorporating items suspended on flexible elements.

- 30 The invention will be further described with reference to the accompanying drawing, of which the single figure is a diagrammatic elevation of a presently preferred form of pendant according to the invention, with a cover removed.

- 35 The drawing illustrates a pendant which is generally heart shaped and suspended on a chain 1 (or cord) which is threaded through a jump ring 2 which itself passes through a hole in a cam slider 3. The cam slider rides in or on a guide 4 provided in a body part of the pendant. It will be appreciated that as illustrated, a top half or cover of the pendant has been omitted to allow clear illustration of the working parts. The body houses a pair of batteries 8 and 9 which are engaged by contact strips 6 mounted on pillars within the body. The contact strips 6 are connected by leads 11 to a printed circuit board 12 carrying discrete components to make up a flashing light circuit powered from the batteries 8 and 9 in series. One of the discrete components is of course a bulb which shines through the translucent cover and/or body of the casing of the pendant when illuminated.

- 40 In order to complete the circuit through the batteries and circuit components, a conductive strip 5, of springy material such as beryllium-copper passes beneath the battery 8 in contact with a terminal thereof and has a U-shaped portion passing over the cam slide 3 so as to exert a degree of frictional engagement thereon. Beyond the U-shaped section, the strip has a further extension 7 which, in the position illustrated, is out of contact with the casing of the battery 9, but is moved into engagement therewith by a cam portion 3a on the cam slider 3 when the latter is moved in the direction of the arrow A relative to the pendant. Such movement may be achieved by tensioning the chain 1 and restraining the pendant, or alternatively by restraining the chain 1 and pulling on the pendant body.

- 65 To switch the circuit off, the slider has to be pres-

sed back into the pendant body so as to allow the U-shaped portion of the strip to contract to its normal position under its own inherent resilience.

- 70 It will be seen that the batteries 8 and 9 are retained in position by bosses 10 moulded in the body, and that the strip 5 is also retained in position to some extent by some of these bosses. The free end of the strip 5 is also restrained by a wall 14 formed in the body to simplify assembly.

- 75 In order to prevent binding of the cam elements 3a the portion of the strip 5 on which it engages may be slightly deformed to present a lead-in surface rather than a sharp edge.

- 80 Various modifications may be made within the scope of the invention.

CLAIMS

- 85 1. A pendant item for personal wear incorporating a light effect, in which the pendant is suspended on a chain, cord or other flexible support connected to a switch operating device so that by pulling on the pendant, or flexible support, the switch is operated to control the light effect.

- 90 2. A pendant item as claimed in claim 1, in which the switch operating device comprises a cam slidably against frictional resistance to engage or disengage a movable contact element.

3. A pendant item as claimed in claim 1 or 2, in which the switch operating device requires a force greater than the weight of the pendant.

- 95 4. A pendant item for personal wear substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing.

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